special dispensation on the recommendations of Ministers, MPs and others;

(b) the number of admissions made during the last session under regular admission provisions;

(c) whether the total number of admissions relating to special dispensation has crossed the stipulated ceiling of 10% and;

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The total number of children who have been granted admissions in Kendriya Vidyalayas for the session 1995-96 under special dispensation on recommendations of Ministers, MPs and others are 9924.

(b) The number of admissions made during the last session under regular admission are 71,172.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The percentage of special dispensation admissions comes to 13.95%. In view of the large demand the Chairman, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan decided to accord permission for admissions beyond 10 per cent.

Construction of Steel Yard

566. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:
SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the construction of the steel yard for the Steel Authority of Indid Ltd. at Cochin;

(b) when the construction was started;

(c) whether there is any delay in the construction of this yard;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) by when this yard is likely to be operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (e) The development work for the new stockyard at Cochin was started in October, 1991. All the work except black topping, railway siding and finishing work of building have already been compelted. Balance civil engineering work has been suspended since September, 1993. Recently, due to certain dispute relating to earth/sand filling Quantities with M/s. Richardson & Cruddas (main contractor), their sub-contractor has filed a civil suit in Madras High Court, and the matter is subjudice. Once the work is resumed, it is expected that it will take about 6 months time to complete the balance work after which the yard will become operational.

National Policy on Women

567. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to formulate a National Policy on Women; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI VIMLA VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are being worked out. A series of regional/State Level consultations are being held across the country to obtain specific recommendations of State Governments, State Commissions for Women, State Social Welfare Advisory Boards, Women's Organisations, academicians and experts on the proposed Policy.